GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3319
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2014
SUBMARINE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT
Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had approved a thirty year submarine building plan in July, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of submarines proposed to be constructed with foreign collaboration and indigenously under the said plan;

(c) whether any submarine has been inducted so far, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for delay in delivery and commissioning of submarines;

(d) whether the Government has reviewed the progress of the Project 75 relating to Indigenous Submarine Construction Project as well as other ongoing warship building projects, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for delay and the original cost as well as cost escalation of these projects; and

(e) the corrective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Cabinet Committee on Security on 12th July, 1999, accorded approval for a 30 year Plan for series construction of Submarines for Indian Navy in two phases, with second phase to be indigenous.

(c) No, Madam. The delay in construction of Project 75 submarines is attributed to teething problems in absorption of new technologies, delay in augmentation of industrial infrastructure at Mazagaon Dockyard Ltd. (MDL) and delay in procurement of various MDL procured items.

(d) Government reviews the progress of Project 75 and other ongoing ship construction projects periodically. The reasons for delay in each case are individually assessed. Some major reasons of delay are infrastructure constraints at shipyards, difficulties in import of warship grade steel, delay in indigenous development of warship grade steel and absorption of new technologies etc. These reasons have attributed to different cost escalations in different projects.

(e) The shipyards have undertaken augmentation of the manpower, infrastructure and industrial means in a phased manner to meet the production targets. Production capabilities have also been augmented. The progress of the projects is closely monitored at different levels in the Government.